DEVICE FOR CONTAINING ANIMAL REPELLANT AND ATTRACTANT COMPOSITIONS

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

This invention relates generally to the field of influencing animal behavior and pertains particularly to the use of a device for emitting a selected odor from a saturated odoriferous composition held in a portable container.

My co-pending U.S. Patent Application Number _____, filed _____, discloses certain animal attractant and/or repellant compositions comprising a carrier material in formulation with such odoriferous constituents as selected animal urine or feces or glandular secretions which are employed to attract or repulse animals which are sensitive to the odor.

The present invention, which is intended to utilize such odoriferous compositions, is a device for emitting odor in the form of gaseous effluent in a particular area consistent with the location of the device.

There are various prior art U.S. patents which disclose subject matter pertaining to aromatic devices particularly intended to affect animals by attraction or repulsion. U.S. Patent 4,302,899 issued to DeHart discloses the use of an aromatic sponge with a spring clip for holding it in a desired location and attract an animal by the scent impregnated in the sponge. U.S. Patent 5,074,439 issued to Wilcox teaches the use of highly absorbent particles which will exude scent through the bag fabric. U.S. Patent 5,611,165 issued to Blaha discloses the use of absorbent material within a pod having a closed position and top and bottom portions which can be manipulated apart to allow odor to escape from the absorbent material. U.S. Patent 5,622,314 issued to Eason discloses a scent diffusion device including a container with a scent-absorbent wick which may be projected from the container to emit the scent. U.S. Patent 5,672,342 issued to Bell discloses a method of collecting animal urine for use as an attractant. U.S. Patent 5,916,552 issued to Perry teaches a method of making and using deer urine as an attractant in a semi-solid gelatin form.

Although the various prior art disclosures reveal usable devices and methods for luring animals by the use of selected natural odors, there remains the need for a device for containing an odoriferous composition that is permanently held in a container such that the user need never touch the composition but the odor from the composition can be dispensed as a gaseous effluent that passes through a liquid-tight container sidewall formed from a non-absorbent material.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

This invention comprehends the provision of a device for emitting repellant odor or attractant scent for luring or repulsing animals, such as deer or rodents. The device preferably comprises a closed container having an odoriferous composition therein and being formed from thin sheet material, which is pervious to the passage therethrough of gaseous effluent from the composition and is impervious to the passage therethrough of liquid forming part of the composition. The thin sheet material forming the container may be a fabric, sheet plastic, or sheet latex having microscopic pores to allow gaseous effluent to bleed therethrough.

In its preferred form, the composition within the container is pretreated by mixing an absorbent carrier material with urine or other animal secretions. The carrier material may be powder, granular, fibrous, solid, liquid, or gel. The container is preferably located within a fully sealed envelope that fits tightly about the container. This tight fit arrangement limits the space between the inside surface of the envelope and the outside surface of the container whereby the odoriferous effluent will be retained in the composition until the outer envelope is removed.

In one form of the invention, the container may be generally rectilinear in shape, having opposed outwardly-facing sidewalls, with one of the sidewalls being a base portion (not shown) that is impervious to the passage therethrough of the gaseous effluent from the composition whereby only one side of the container will exude the odor from the composition.

It is contemplated that the device of this invention may be provided in the form of a blister pack having a plurality of identical containers uniformly located on one side of a planar card, with the card having linear perforation lines defining the separate blisters so that individual containers can be torn from the card and placed at various selected locations consistent with luring or repelling animals in a given area.

The ensuing description of the preferred embodiment of the invention set forth herein should not be construed as limiting the scope of the invention. For example, variations in the materials of the components of the device constituting the invention, and the dimensions of its several parts, may be different from those shown and described herein without departing from the scope and spirit of the invention as determined and set forth by the appended claims.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

Fig. 1 is an isometric view of a container which is a component of the present invention, the container having a portion thereof cut-away to reveal its interior;

Fig. 2 is an isometric view of a specific alternative embodiment of the present invention;

Fig. 3 is an elevational view illustrating the disposition of one embodiment of the present invention; and

Fig. 4 is a side elevational view of the device first illustrated in Fig. 1 but here shown in a particular disposition consistent with its use.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE PREFERRED EMBODIMENTS

Fig. 1 illustrates a container 10 formed from a flexible sheet material 12. The container 10 has opposite front and back sides 14 and 16, a longitudinal seal fold 18, and closed ends 20. Encapsulated within the container 10 is an odorif-rous composition 22 constituting powder, granular, solid, liquid, or gel material that has been permeated with a specific odor, preferably urine liquid or other animal secretions.

Fig. 2 illustrates a blister pack 30 constituting a planar card 32 having a face side 34 with outwardly-projecting blister portions 36 thereon. Each blister 36 is preferably formed from a semi-rigid plastic material and encloses a container 10 therein. In Fig. 2, the ends 20 of the container 10 shown in Fig. 1 are folded inwardly but may be pulled outwardly for handling the container when it is removed from the blister. The card 34 has a linear perforation line 38 to enable severance on one blister pack from the other, and it should be understood that a blister pack in accordance with the illustration in Fig. 2 might contain a large multiplicity of the blister packs on the substantially larger display card 34, with intervening perforated lines on the card to enable separation as heretofore described.

A critical feature of the present invention is that the sheet material from which the container 12 is constructed is quite thin and has microscopic pores throughout to permit gaseous effluent to pass through the container sidewall from the composition 22 as shown in Fig. 1. A further important feature relates to the material forming the blister 36 and the card stock 34, both of which are impervious to the passage therethrough of gaseous effluent, and the blister 36 is intentionally fitted in close or contiguous proximity to the sidewall of the container 12 whereby effluent emission does not occur from the container 12 until such time as the enclosing package, such as the blister 36, is torn or otherwise removed.

Fig. 3 illustrates a presently preferred method of locating the device 10 to serve as an animal attractant or repellant, depending upon the composition contained within the device 10. A flap aperture 40 is provided at one end of the device 10 to enable connection therethrough of a wire twist tie 42 which may be used to attach the device 10 in a suspended disposition on a branch of a tree 44.

Fig. 4 illustrates an alternative method of positioning the device 10 by utilization of a rigid plastic stake structure 46 which may be pushed into the earth whereby an integral upwardly-projecting hook 50 is used to attach to the device 10 through the flap aperture 40.